

Appln No. 10/648,943

Amdt date April 18, 2005

Reply to Office action of March 8, 2005

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-32 are pending in the above-referenced application.

This is a response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2005 wherein the Examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 10-32 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 5-8, and 30-36 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,556; and objected to claim 9 for depending on a rejected claim. No claims are rejected in view of any prior art.

In response to the obviousness-type double patenting, Applicants, through their counsel, have submitted a terminal disclaimer, which is attached hereto, to obviate the rejection.


In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner finds it necessary to speak with Applicants' attorney, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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THD/bl

Encl.: Terminal Disclaimer

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